

Fox House Day Nursery

56 Erith Road, Belvedere, Kent, DA17 6HR



Inspection date	19 April 2016
Previous inspection date	16 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not use their planning effectively to consistently meet children's next steps in learning.
- Measures to improve the consistency of teaching are not yet fully embedded and the quality of teaching is not always good enough.
- The range of activities and resources outdoors does not fully support learning opportunities for those children who learn better outside.
- Self-evaluation does not fully identify all areas for development to improve learning experiences for children.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents and staff communicate regularly about children's development, which helps to provide consistency in children's care routines and learning.
- Children's well-being is supported effectively. Staff develop caring relationships with children. Children feel secure and confident in their care.
- Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ improve planning to ensure that the individual needs, interests and stage of development of each child are reflected in the plan, and deliver activities that help all children to make good progress	19/05/2016
■ improve monitoring systems to identify weaknesses in staff practice to raise the quality of teaching.	19/05/2016

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- improve the range of activities outdoors to help stimulate the curiosity of children who learn better outside
- make greater use of self-evaluation to identify areas for development to improve learning experiences for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked with staff to discuss their role in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and sampled documents, including children's folders and tracking forms.
- The inspector spoke to some parents.
- The inspector carried a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager and owner and looked at relevant documents, which included safeguarding procedures and staff qualifications.

Inspector

Cynthia David

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager works with staff to evaluate the provision, although this is not yet fully embedded in their practice and does not consistently identify all areas to improve outcomes for children. For example, there have been some improvements to staff's teaching practice; however, teaching is still not consistently good. The manager uses her support sessions with staff to identify the strengths and weaknesses in their practice, and is putting steps in place, such as training, to help improve these. For example, after recent training, staff now consider the learning intentions of activities more. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of keeping children safe. Staff are up to date with safeguarding procedures and know how to report any concerns for a child's safety and welfare. There is an effective recruitment process and all staff have been vetted to help ensure their suitability.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff observe and assess children's development; however, they do not use this information consistently to provide activities that meet children's identified next steps in learning. Nonetheless, they do provide activities that children enjoy. Staff provide resources to encourage young children to explore and develop their coordination skills, for example, through lifting flaps, opening doors and pushing. Children develop their early literacy skills, such as making marks with pens attached to toy cars. Staff regularly share information with parents about the progress that their children are making. This helps to keep parents informed and involved in their children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff provide a warm and friendly environment. They provide opportunities for children to play outside. However, the range of opportunities, particularly for the older children, does not stretch their developing skills effectively. The key-person system works well and staff develop good relationships with children and their parents. This helps to enable children to be confident in their play and secure in the setting. Children behave well. Staff act as good role models and they praise and encourage children to take turns and share with one another. For example, staff use a 'kindness tree' to display and acknowledge children's acts of kindness during the day.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are happy and settled in the setting. They are confident, make their own choices and include others in their play. Children make satisfactory progress. They develop some of the skills to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. Children enjoy taking part in activities that help to promote their physical and mathematical skills. For example, they enjoy negotiating obstacles and learn to go 'over', 'under' and 'through' them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	115325
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	1028423
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	ABC Nursery Group Partnership
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2013
Telephone number	01322441292

Fox House Day Nursery opened in 1993 and is one of two nurseries owned by the ABC Nursery Group. It is open five days a week, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is situated in Upper Belvedere, in the London Borough of Bexley. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education sessions to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery currently supports children who are learning English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs or disability. The nursery employs six staff, including the nursery manager. Three staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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